AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1218 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1934 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 24, NO. 33

Corrupted freemen are the worst of slaves.—Garrick.

15,000 AFL Union Workers Declare Strike Against Aluminum Company

President Green Authorizes Walkout, Which Was Ordered by the National Council of Aluminum Workers—Wages, Hours and Recognition of Union Figure in Controversy.

New Kensington, Pa.—The National Council of Aluminum Workers, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, declared a strike against the Aluminum Company of America following the persistent refusal of company officials to meet the demands of the employes or respond to the mediation efforts of the National Labor Relations Board.

It was estimated that 15,000 union workers struck, covering the company's three chief plants here and other plants in Arnold, Pa.; Logan's Ferry, Pa.; Massena, N. Y.; Alcoa, Tenn.; East St. Louis, Ill., and Baden, N. C.

Wages and Hours Controversy

The controversy with the Aluminum Company was caused by differences over wages, hours, and union recognition.

It dates back several months to the formation of local unions and their efforts to obtain concessions from the employers.

The last conference was held in Pittsburgh a week before the strike. On that occasion the company officials said they would take the demands of the employes under consideration and reply at an early date.

While at Atlantic City attending the Fall meeting of the A. F. Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, William Green, president of the Federation, received the following telegram from A. R. Buller, president, and Fred A. Wetmore, secretary of the Aluminum Workers' Council, who were in Washington.

"Representatives of the National Labor Relations Board conferred with management Aluminum Company of America, and attempted to mediate dispute over company's refusal to sign agreement. All efforts met with absolute refusal of company to enter into agreement or make any concessions whatever.

"Feeling is tense, and unless we act at once unions cannot be stopped from striking individually, with resulting break-up of organization. Please wire your authorization."

Green Authorizes Strike

Mr. Green sent his strike authorization in this telegram:

"If, in the judgment of you and your associates, representing aluminum workers, a strike should take place, you have my authority to inaugurate a strike when it becomes absolutely clear that all efforts at mediation have failed.

"I recommend, however, that workers who will be called upon to participate in a strike be accorded full opportunity to express their attitude toward it."

International 40-Hour Week Blocked By British Government and Employers

Editor's Note.—The international 40-hour week is regarded as a measure of great importance to relieve unemployment by the organized labor movement of England. In a recent issue of the official organ of the United Pattern Makers' Association, Mr. A. A. H. Findlay, general organization secretary, made the following statement to his own union regarding unemployed members and the necessity of the international 40-hour week.

By A. A. H. FINDLAY

General Secretary, United Pattern Makers' Association of Great Britain

have to record 1,153 members unemployed and 470 on Transitional Benefit. This time last year our unemployed figure was 2,048. It is interesting to note that since the month of September, 1933, there has been a steady improvement. Good as it is compared with last year we are still carrying a very heavy burden of unemployment, and if previous years are any guide, the most we can hope for is a continuance of the present position.

When you reckon the number of our members who have left the trade, who are on sick or superannuation benefit, and apprentices, you have something like 14½ per cent to find work for.

These figures are sufficient justification for the advocacy of a 40-hour (or less) week without any reduction in earnings. A reduction of earnings would simply mean less spending and that again means a reduction of production, necessarily increasing the cost of living. * * *

As an indication of the opposition with which we have to contend, you should note that the present Government through their representative in conjunction with Germany have succeeded in preventing the workers from being able to secure a Convention at the International Labor Conference at Geneva.

Long hours and less wages in other countries are used as an argument why we cannot have shorter hours and more wages here. Good conditions here are harder to obtain because conditions less favorable operate elsewhere.

All industries have their repercussions. Patriotism has no meaning for the financier or industrial magnate who is actuated solely by the nature of capitalist competition to conform to international standards.

The International Labour Office at Geneva is the melting pot where these subjects are threshed out as between the government, employers and employes. **What should be done in each country to improve the lot of the worker is subject to the vested interests of existing institutions.**

You will understand, therefore, that the fight for a higher standard of life is not a question to be dealt with immediately, but one of gradual improvement of the lot of our brothers in less happy circumstances.

AFL Building Trades Department Issues Call for Convention in San Francisco

Organized in 1908, the Department Now Includes All Eligible Building Trades Unions Affiliated With the American Federation of Labor.

By American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service

Washington.—M. J. McDonough, president of the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, issued the call for the twenty-eighth annual convention of the Department, which will convene in San Francisco, Calif., on September 24. The convention headquarters will be at the Whitcomb Hotel.

Established in 1908

The 1907 convention of the American Federation of Labor declared that "for the greater development of the labor movement departments subordinate to the American Federation of Labor are to be established." As a result of this declaration the Building Trades Department was founded in February, 1908.

There was finally in existence the Structural Building Trades Alliance of America, a combination of building trades unions set up in Indianapolis in 1903. Although this Alliance was independent of the American Federation of Labor, it was composed chiefly of international unions affiliated with that organization. The Alliance therefore constituted the nucleus for the new department. Having adopted the policy of group or industrial divisions, officials of the Federation met officials of the Alliance in conference and reorganized it as the Building Trades Department of the A. F. of L.

Department's Objects

The declared objects of the Department include "the encouragement and formation of local organizations of building trades men and the conferring of such power and authority upon the several locals of this Department as may advance the interests and welfare of the building industry; to adjust trade disputes along practical lines as they arise from time to time; and to create a more harmonious feeling between employer and employe."

Membership in the Department is limited to national and international building trades organizations that are affiliated to the American Federation of Labor and which are universally employed in the building industry either in erection, repair, or alteration."

Trade Jurisdiction

"The justice of trade jurisdiction" is recognized by the Department, which aims "to guarantee to the various branches of the building industry control of the work as rightfully belongs to them and to which they are justly entitled."

The Building Trades Department is governed by an executive council composed of the president and six vice-presidents, no two members of which may belong to or represent the same international union.

The president is the chief administrative officer.

Officers of Department

The present officers of the Building Trades Department are: President, M. J. McDonough, Washington, D. C.; secretary-treasurer, William C. O'Neill, Washington, D. C.; first vice-president, John J. Hynes, Washington, D. C.; second vice-president, L. P. Lindelof, Lafayette, Ind.; third vice-president, P. J. Morrin, St. Louis, Mo.; fourth vice-president, William J. McSorley, Cleveland, Ohio; fifth vice-president, John Fosehl, Washington, D. C.; sixth vice-president, Joseph V. Moreschi, Quincy, Mass.

The offices of the Building Trades Department are in the American Federation of Labor Building, Washington, D. C.

LABOR BOARD UNDERTAKES TO END ALUMINUM STRIKE

Company Officials Refuse to Grant Union's Demand for Union Shop

Washington.—The National Labor Relations Board attempted to intervene in the strike of toousands of union employes against the Aluminum Company of America as a last resort to secure an equitable adjustment of wages, hours and union recognition.

The board asked both the Aluminum Workers' Council, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and the Aluminum Company to submit to arbitration. The board had been attempting to reach a settlement between the aluminum workers and the company for a number of days before the strike.

Company officials had consistently refused to accept the terms of the workers, asserting that they were demanding in effect a "closed shop." In addition to a demand that company officials meet and bargain with them, the union men have insisted that the company adopt the "check-off" system for dues and establish uniform wages in all plants.

The Labor Board issued this statement:

"While no formal complaint has been lodged with the board, the differences between the aluminum workers and the company were brought to the attention of the board by the unions.

"The board then sent its representatives to Pittsburgh to make investigations and confer with company officials. The board also has conferred with the workers in an effort to settle the differences.

"It stands ready to assist the disputants in reaching a satisfactory solution."

GREEN DEFENDS AFL JOBLESS ESTIMATE

Says Figure of 10,300,000 Is Based on Facts, While Chamber of Commerce Estimate of 7,000,000 Is Guesswork.

By American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service

Atlantic City, N. J.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, who is in Atlantic City attending the Fall meeting of the Federation's Executive Council, took prompt issue with the statement made by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States from its headquarters in Washington that the A. F of L.'s estimate of 10,300,000 unemployed was "exaggerated."

The Commerce Chamber said that according to its own study of unemployment "there were less than 7,000,000 unemployed in July," but did not reveal either the scope or the source of its "study."

In reply to the chamber's statement, Mr. Green said that the figure of 10,300,000 unemployed as issued by the A. F. of L. was "based on figures and facts," while "the 7,000,000 estimated by the United States Chamber of Commerce was pure guesswork."

"Our figure is based on reports received monthly from practically every city and town in the United States," Mr. Green declared, "and the results are obtained after scientific mathematical calculations. Our figures are always recognized by the Government, economic organizations and the members of Congress as a portrayal of the true condition of unemployment in this country."

Mr. Green said the challenge of the Chamber of Commerce was the first time any organization or individual ever had questioned the veracity of the A. F. of L.

HARRIMAN MILLS FACE LOSS OF BLUE EAGLE

Johnson Threatens Drastic Action if Company Refuses to Bargain With Employes and Promptly Reinstate 25 Strikers.

Washington.—General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator, declared the Harriman Hosiery Mills of Harriman, Tenn., may lose the Blue Eagle again if its officials continue to refuse to "recognize the workers duly selected to negotiate with the company the terms of settlement of the long controversy. Such refusal would constitute a fresh violation of the code, General Johnson said, adding that it was a misunderstanding that such a violation had not already been committed.

General Johnson declared that while the settlement signed by the company with A. R. Glauey, field compliance director, was not one which he would have approved, he would stand by it.

"Frankly, if I had been here, the Blue Eagle would never have been returned to the Harriman Mills," he said. "But it was returned, so that case is closed and will not be reopened. However, if the company persists in its refusal to bargain collectively, that will constitute a fresh violation, and on that ground I'll remove the Blue Eagle again."

Settlement of the labor problem involved has been agreed upon by all the employes and labor representatives concerned, but not by the company, which has asked for interpretations of certain provisions of the proposed adjustment.

The company, it was stated, has not refused to accept the terms of the agreement, but is withholding acceptance pending a reply to its inquiries. Compliance by the company involves immediate reinstatement to its rolls of twenty-five strikers, and before January 1 of the twenty-five men who negotiated a previous agreement.

RAILROADS LOSE FIGHT AGAINST PENSION LAW

Washington Court Refuses to Grant Injunction Asked by 137 Railway Companies

Washington.—The executives of 137 railroads who attacked the constitutionality of the Railroad Retirement act their first defeat here when District Supreme Court Justice Proctor refused to grant a temporary injunction, requested by them, restraining the Federal Board, which was set up to administer the law, to continue its work. If the court had granted the injunction the law's operation of the law would have been suspended. The railroad executives said they would appeal the case to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The railroads contended the law, passed by Congress in 1934, was unconstitutional and sought an injunction to restrain the board. Hammond E. Chaffetz, special assistant to Attorney-General Homer S. Cummings, defended the statute.

Chaffetz disclosed that the retirement board is about to issue two orders. The first is directed to all Class One carriers, requiring them to increase payments of $125,000 to the Treasury so that the board can begin its administration of the act. The second requests from all railroads the names of employes who have reached seventy.

In refusing the railroads' request for the restraining order, Justice Proctor declared there had been no proper showing that the carriers would suffer any great injury at present.

ACTIVE LABEL CAMPAIGN PLANNED BY AFL UNION LABEL TRADES DEPT.

Matthew Woll Says Commodities Carrying Label Are Only Guarantee That Manufacturers Apply Wages and Hours Standards Above NRA Minimums.

By American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service

The directors of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, at their recent meeting in Atlantic City during the Fall session of the A. F. of L. Executive Council, formulated plans for a militant nation-wide campaign to increase the use of the union label and develop a larger home market for American products. The plans will be presented to the annual meeting of the Department, which will open in San Francisco on September 27.

Scope of Drive Explained

Matthew Woll, president of the Union Label Trades Department, gave the following explanation of the label campaign:

"The directors of the Union Label Trades Department have just completed arrangements for a more intensive approach to the problem of familiarizing the public and wage earners with the use of the union label which has as yet been achieved.

"The policy of the new officers which will be presented in detailed form to the October convention will provide for a militant drive by the Label Trades Department to centralize the purchasing power of the organized wage earners.

"We will seek to promote the sale and use of commodities that bear the union label on the ground that this label is the only effective guarantee that wage, hour and other conditions above the minimum NRA standards are being lived up to by the manufacturers of the products.

NRA Minimums Limited to Unskilled

"Minimum wage standards as provided for in the codes under the Blue Eagle apply only to unskilled workers. For this group the Blue Eagle advises the public that the minimum hour and wage provisions of the codes are being lived up to, but there is no guarantee other than the union label that the wage standards for the skilled and semi-skilled workers are being lived up to by the manufacturers.

"The union label is a permanent feature of American life. Its appearance on many products has been familiar to generations of men and women who demand union label goods because they are the product of honest manufacture and workmanship and mean a decent living standard for the wage earners."

The directors of the Union Label Trades Department elected Thomas A. Rickert, president of the United Garment Workers, as a vice-president of the Department, a position made vacant by the elevation of Ira M. Ornburn, president of the Cigar Makers' International Union of America, from vice-president to the office of secretary-treasurer.

United Textile Workers' Committee Urges 30-Hour Week and Minimum Wage Extension

Says Cotton Textile Code Has Not Increased Employment or Purchasing Power and Insists Employes Are Compelled to Operate Too Many Machines.

New York.—Strong criticism of the cotton textile code for its failure to increase employment or the purchasing power of textile workers, a demand for the 30-hour week, extension of minimum wage rates to other paid employes, and a reduction of the machine load imposed on various classes of workers, characterized the report made to the convention of the United Textile Workers here by a special committee appointed to study the results of the cotton textile code during the first year of its operation as applied to labor.

Code Revision Necessary

"The NRA was primarily inaugurated to increase employment and purchasing power," the report said. "After a year's experience, the present set-up and policy of the cotton textile code has proved totally inadequate to achieve these objectives. To stabilize employment, increase purchasing power it is necessary that the cotton textile code be revised and modified in the following respects: . . . differential minimums, and machine loads.

Market Glutted

"The past year has proven that two shifts of forty hours per week produce far more goods than can be sold. Market has been glutted. As a consequence, the cotton textile industry is in as chaotic a condition as it was previous to the inception of the NRA.

"Having only one minimum wage in the code has tended to make the minimum wage become the maximum wage. The skilled workers are being dragged down to the level of the unskilled.

Minimum Wage Rates for Skilled Workers

To remedy the hours and wages situation, the committee urged that maximum hours remain at 40 hours per week with no exceptions, and that the following minimum wage rates be set, all on a 40-hour week basis: Unskilled workers, $13 per week; semi-skilled workers, $15 per week; skilled workers, $22.50 per week; highly skilled workers, $30 per week.

Reduce Machine Loads

On the important question of the number of machines various classes of textile workers shall be required to operate, the report said:

"Th emission from the cotton textile code of any provisions regarding machine loads per operative nullifies the main objective of the NRA—increased employment.

"The present machine loads in the cotton textile industry are not based on any sane and reasonable considerations of how much the operative can carry without undue distress and fatigue. Such causes of the unreasonable and fantastic machine loads in the cotton textile industry today can be traced to market conditions.

"The price for goods in the market would be set by the ability and desire of their desperate endeavor to keep in business increased the machine load to the point where, even if they knew the load was excessive. The machine loads of today are excessive.

To correct this situation, the committee submitted an elaborate schedule setting up maximum loads according to spindles which each textile worker in the cotton textile industry should operate.

Call for 26th Annual Convention Issued By A. F. of L. Metal Trades Department

Organizations That Have Seceded or Been Expelled or Suspended Are Barred from Representation

By American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service

Washington.—The call for the twenty-sixth annual convention of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, to convene in the convention hall of the Whitcomb Hotel, San Francisco, Calif., on September 26, 1934, was issued by James O'Connell, president, and John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer, of the Department.

On the question of representation at the convention the call said:

"No organization that has seceded or been expelled or suspended by this Department, the American Federation of Labor, or by any national or international organization connected therewith, shall, while under penalty, be allowed representation or recognition in this organization, or any local metal trades council under penalty of suspension of the body violating this section.

"No organization shall be entitled to representation unless such organization is in good standing in the American Federation of Labor, or this Department, or shall have applied for and received a certificate of affiliation of this Department. No person shall be recognized as a delegate whose national or international organization is not affiliated with this Department."

Founded by A. F. of L. in 1908

The American Federation of Labor established the Metal Trades Department in June, 1908. Its set-up was facilitated by the existence of the Federated Metal Trades, a federation of the metal trade unions which had functioned since 1900. It did not include all of the metal trades, the A. F. of L. having organized local metal trades councils in certain cities. It was an independent organization, but when the departmental program was undertaken by the American Federation of Labor, the Federated Metal Trades, with its nucleus of industrial federation in the metal industry, was taken over and chartered as the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor. Thereafter the affiliated metal trades unions in the American Federation of Labor had also been identified with the Federated Metal Trades became members of the Metal Trades Department.

Seeks Welfare of Metal Industry

According to its constitution, the purpose of the Department is "the encouragement and formation of local metal trades councils and the conferring of such power and authority upon the various local organizations of this Department as may advance the interests and welfare of the metal industry"; to "adjust trade disputes"; and "to use its good offices in assisting affiliated national and international unions in the adjustment of disputes arising over a question of jurisdiction."

Membership and Government

The Department's membership is limited to "national and international metal trades unions which are chartered by and affiliated to the American Federation of Labor and metal trades councils chartered by and affiliated to the Department, and which are employed in the metal industries."

The government of the Department is vested in an executive board consisting of the president, secretary-treasurer and six vice-presidents, no two of whom shall be representatives of the same organization. The president "exercises supervision over the Metal Trades Department throughout its jurisdiction."

Officers

The present officers of the Metal Trades Department are: President, James O'Connell, Washington, D. C.; secretary-treasurer, J. P. Frey, Washington, D. C.; first vice-president, Joseph A. Franklin, Kansas City, Kans.; second vice-president, John Coefield, Washington, D. C.; third vice-president, John J. Hynes, Washington, D. C.; fourth vice-president, W. W. Britton, Cincinnati, Ohio; fifth vice-president, Roy Horn, Chicago, Ill.; sixth vice-president, James Wilson, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The offices of the Department are in the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C.

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN WOOD WORKERS' OFFICIAL DIES

Prague, Czechoslovakia.—Anton Masek, president and central secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Woodworkers of Czechoslovakia, died here after a long illness.

"Mr. Masek was a salaried officer of the union movement. He entered the union movement during many ups and downs since 1911," declared the Bulletin of the International Federation of Building and Woodworkers in commenting on the life and work of the illustrious labor leader.

"He was one of the founders of the Federation. Thereafter the union was founded before the war, when the greater part of Czechoslovakia still belonged to Austria-Hungary, as a local of the Central Union of Vienna," the Bulletin added. "When this union after the war went Communist and a few free woodworkers' unions had to be formed in Czechoslovakia, Mr. Masek became the secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Woodworkers.

"Under his leadership the union rose from a membership of 2,000 to 10,000, whereas the Communist union dropped from 15,000 to barely 4,000. On January 1, 1932, this fratricidal war was happily ended by the reunion of the two organizations, and since then Mr. Masek proved to be the right man for the leadership of the Amalgamated Union, enjoying the double office of president and central secretary until his death.

"Mr. Masek was held in high esteem by the workers. He was known to be an excellent tactician and negotiator, but he also proved his worth as a man of action. Thus he participated in the struggles for general suffrage, which led to the serious incident between workers and military at the Gumpowder Tower of Prague, in which a number were killed and wounded.

"Heart disease, from which he suffered for the past four years, suddenly cut short his industrious life. His tireless work ensures him an honored and lasting remembrance among the woodworkers."

Big CWA Program and Higher Wages Are Urged by AFL Executive Council

Green Says Federation Will Fight Putting Power of NRA Into Hands of Employers—Visions Higher Living Costs As Result of Drought—Hopes to Avoid Strikes.

Atlantic City, N. J.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, in session here, decided to urge a widespread CWA program during the Winter months and will seek the aid of President Roosevelt to obtain higher wages for all workers employed by private industry to offset the increased cost of living, William Green, president of the A. F. of L., announced.

Opposes Employer Control of NRA

Mr. Green emphatically declared that the A. F. of L. would oppose any effort to reorganize the NRA that would put the power into the hands of private industry rather than the Federal Government.

Mr. Green said there was no doubt that there were plans on foot to reorganize the NRA and that for the protection of labor the Government must retain administration of the act.

Living Costs Boosted by Drought

"At the present time, through the codes, private industry is given wide authority and power," he declared. "To add to that would mean that labor and the consumer would, we fear, be placed in an indefensible position with relation to private industry. The Federation will continue to seek reports from time to time on the various code authorities."

Mr. Green said the Federation viewed with alarm the probable effects of the drought and the resultant curtailment of food production. This, he declared, could result only in a much higher cost of living during the Winter, making an increased wage standard necessary. If the cost of food stuffs and necessities is to increase, it is proper and just that wages should be lifted accordingly, he added.

"The Federation is gravely apprehensive of the conditions during the coming Winter," Mr. Green said, "and we will do our best so that the workers will not be forced to bear the entire effect. Labor must unite to lift wage standards.

Increased Relief Needs

"The Council forsees that the drought will increase relief needs tremendously and at the conclusion of the session here we will call on President Roosevelt to urge that the CWA, on an even greater scale, be substituted for direct relief. In the wages for this work the Government must take into account the probable changed economic conditions and higher prices."

Avoid Strikes

"We hope to be able to avoid any strikes and will call for further revisions in labor sections of the codes in the event of failure to agree," declared the major industries, so that wages may be increased.

The Federation, Mr. Green concluded, also will seek an increased appropriation for the United States Department of Labor so that the department can care for the needs of the 40,000,000 wage earners.

A. F. of L. Executive Council Considers Annual Report to San Francisco Convention

Recovery Act, Codes, Labor Legislation, Old-Age Pensions, Jobless Insurance, and All Aspects of Organized Labor Movement and Economic Conditions of the Workers Will Be Covered.

By American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service

Atlantic City, N. J.—The second week of the Fall meeting of the American Federation of Labor's Executive Council here was largely devoted to considering the annual report which the Council will make to the A. F. of L. convention which convenes in San Francisco on October 1.

In a statement regarding the report, William Green, president of the Federation, said he was not permitted to make public details of the extensive report to be submitted at the session. He asserted, however, that it would be wide in scope and revealed the points which the report would cover.

The report will cover in detail the activities in all fields of the American Federation of Labor during the year. It will consider not only the economic experiences of labor, but also the advances made in labor legislation along all lines, including old-age pensions, unemployment insurance, child labor legislation and prohibition of child labor.

A large section of the report will deal with the NRA and will include the Executive Council's appraisal of the program, the codes and the effect of administration activities and policies of the NRA on labor.

Another part of the report will handle organization activities of the Federation and will show a large increase in membership during the past year. At Washington in 1933 it was said that the paid-up membership was about 3,000,000.

Jurisdictional problems, finances, legislation activities and the Pan-American Federation of Labor will also be dealt with at length. The latter is an affiliate of the A. F. of L., but one which functions largely in conjunction with representatives of the South American republics.

The completed report is given to the delegates at the opening session of the convention and is referred to the Committee on Executive Council Report for consideration and recommendations, which subsequently lay the report by sections before the convention with recommendations.

Union Label Trades Department Convention Convenes in San Francisco on September 27

Founded in 1909 by the American Federation of Labor to Promote Demand for Goods Made By Trade Union Members.

By American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service

Washington.—The Executive Board of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor announced that the convention in the twenty-seventh annual convention of the Department will open in San Francisco on Sept. 27 at the Hotel Whitcomb.

"Representation in the convention," the call said, "will be on the following basis: Organizations of less than 4,000 members, one delegate; 4,000 and less than 8,000 members, two delegates; 8,000 and less than 16,000 members, three delegates; 16,000 and less than 32,000 members, four delegates; 32,000 members or less than 64,000 members, five delegates; more than 64,000 members, six delegates.

"Organizations to be entitled to representation must have obtained a certificate of affiliation at least three months prior to the Convention."

Established in 1909

The American Federation of Labor organized Union Label Trades Department in 1909. Its membership is limited to national and international unions regularly chartered and affiliated to the A. F. of L. using labels, cards or buttons on the products of their members to designate membership therein.

According to its constitution, the Department was organized "to promote a greater demand for products bearing the union label and of labor performed by union workers; to investigate into, devise, recommend, and within the limits of its authority carry into effect methods for the advertisement of union-label products."

Unions Control Labels

The affiliated organizations retain control over the labels and trade regulations governing the use of union labels, the Department having no authority over their issuance or use. Its function is to carry on educational activities and act as a publicity medium in promoting a demand for union label products.

Annual Conventions

A convention is held every year by the Department just preceding the convention of the American Federation of Labor, at which its officers are elected. The executive board consists of a president, five vice-presidents, and secretary-treasurer. The secretary-treasurer is the full-time salaried official, charged with the duty of "carrying out the purposes for which the department was created."

The Department issues an official directory of manufacturers using union labels.

The Department also charters local union label leagues which are established with the endorsement of the central labor union of the city or town.

Members of Executive Board

The present officers of the Union Label Trades Department are: President, Matthew Woll, New York, N. Y.; secretary-treasurer, I. M. Ornburn, Washington, D. C.; first vice-president, Joseph Obergfell, Cincinnati, Ohio; second vice-president, John P. Myrup, Chicago, Ill.; third vice-president, Charles P. Howard, Indianapolis, Ind.; fourth vice-president, John J. Mara, Boston, Mass.; fifth vice-president, Thomas A. Rickert, Chicago, Ill.

The headquarters of the Department are in the American Federation of Labor Building, Washington, D. C.

LABOR BOARD WILL RUN POLL IN MINNEAPOLIS TRUCK DRIVERS' STRIKE

Minneapolis, Minn.—Rev. Francis J. Haas, Federal mediator in the Minneapolis truck strike, announced that he had forwarded to the National Labor Board in Washington a recommendation that an election be held immediately among strikers to determine whom they wish to represent them in collective bargaining.

The action was the first definite step in more than a week toward settlement of the month-old strike. Father Haas announced that he had received from employers a formal communication announcing their consent for the election. It already had been asked by employes.